

Western Cape

# SCaR



Bulletin No 38 April 2014



Back (l-r): Peter Bosch (skipper), Grant Chapman (navigator),  
Virgil van der Horst, Chris Meier, Marcus Farnham.  
Front (l-r): Lorraine le Seur, Cathleen Hughes, Ashwyn Davis  
Photo by Gavin Withers (Action Pix)



**Scouts cross the South Atlantic on JML Rotary Scout** from Cape Town to Rio de Janeiro - what an amazing indescribable adventurous achievement, and to be able to follow this with up to 700 blog hits everyday - awesome. Daily progress was avidly followed since leaving on Saturday 4 January – they aim to be back before the Kontiki weekend.

Listed here are people and companies who helped make all this possible. Mere words cannot be aligned to truly hit home and express the sincerest thanks totally possible, which these all truly deserve:

**Pick n Pay** for the food and Automatic Identification System (AIS) equipment sponsorship.

**Eikos Risk Applications** for the special race cover – including the trip home.

The **Jewish Maritime League (JML)** for its generous naming-rights sponsorship.

**Sat-4-Rent** for the Sat Phone and airtime – and for facilitating the sponsorship of the Sailor FBB broadband device.

**Globecom** for sponsoring the Sailor FBB.

**Cape Maritime Electronics** for fitting the Sailor FBB free of charge.

**USABCO/ Addis** for the donation of 8 x 25 litre water cans which proved so vital towards the end of the race.

**Southern Ropes** for the donation of ropes and halyards.

**Bobby Hughes** for his generous cash donations to the yacht.

**Dr Ross Hofmeyer** who helped put together the comprehensive First Aid Kit on board and was on 24/7 standby to help with potential medical emergencies.

**Larry Davis** for his very valuable advice that was greatly appreciated by the crew.

**Ullman Sails** who donated sail parts that were taken by Bobby Hughes to Rio to repair the spinnaker for the home trip.

**Patrick Benade** who identified the Dorado and Snake Mackerel fish caught by the crew.

**The Sandvlei Sea Scout Base Chairman and Committee** who were so supportive of this initiative.

**SCOUTS South Africa HQ** and voluntary members.

The amazing **2014 JML Rotary Scout Cape to Rio Crew** – a culmination of everything, taking Scouting beyond imaginable.



One can only but stand amazed at how Scouting can train and turn ordinary 'little people' into fearless individual team working super human leaders capable of going to the moon, concurring the highest mountain and crossing oceans without batting an eye. Who of us cannot forget saying this to our first love - about crossing the biggest ocean, climbing the highest mountain, etc. to prove our love... yet we as Scouts don't just say it, we do it - male and female alike!

This latest campaign (as with many others) was Scouting working at its very best. Behind the crew sailing across the ocean was a polished 'machine' that worked to support them... fundraising was done, the Sea Scout Base Committee used its people and resources to help get stories in the newspapers, on radio and in social media. SCOUTS South Africa HQ, Provincial Commissioner Paddy and many others used their resources to help where they could.

During the fundraising drives, it was amazing to find how many people saying that they were Scouts in their youth and so were more than willing to donate goods and services.

The crew of the yacht were the greatest... there was male, female, old and young on board. (On that note, Mark

Jennings didn't know if to mention this, as he loathes age discrimination, but this needs mentioning). Skipper Peter Bosch says he is feeling as strong as an ox - seems like at 71 there are still a few ocean crossings left in his tank! There's a poke in the eye for the age discriminators who think 71 year olds should be sitting on a couch watching T20 cricket and suchlike! Peter and many others once again show us that Scouting is truly for the young at heart ...and actual youth in age to enjoy.

Then there was the preparation of the yacht. Besides Peter Bosch's superb seamanship and handling of the yacht through the fearsome storm that caused 10 yachts to retire and sadly claimed the life of one of the competitors – the preparation for the race played a major role. Prior to the race, the mast was removed and all the rigging wires and fittings replaced and serviced. A small fortune was spent on installing very expensive batteries and a solar charging system to ensure the yacht had power at all times. The high quality of this system was proven during the storm when components damaged by the water taken onboard kicked into failsafe mode, ensuring that the batteries still charged. It was money well invested.

During the race the crew sailed above par – they sailed better than their handicap. If there had been enough wind to complete the race in the time allowed, they would have won the Cruising Class of the race. However, the adventure and lifetime experiences gained from this venture, by far outweigh the winning, as you can read in the blog when serious decisions were made towards the end. And, if this journey across nothing but water-water for days everywhere wasn't enough, they turned around and sailed all the way back to Cape Town again – with a smile and whistle all the way.

To the crew and all background support involved in any way – we salute you! In the next SCAr you can read the Cape to



Chris Benford, Rory Rochat and Renier Fourie joined the crew for the return trip to Cape Town.

Rio 2014 Diary of the Crew and their amazing adventures. Did you know, we also entered the very first [Cape to Rio Race in 1971](#). We tried to have an all Scout crew on this trip, like the last Cape to St Helena Race, but the Education Department would not give approval, so the crew consisted of Scout Leaders and Scouts taking a gap year.

On the return trip, Chris, Marcus and Grant left the boat to fly home. Chris Benford (1<sup>st</sup> Rosebank), Rory Rochat (2<sup>nd</sup> Bergvliet) and Renier Fourie (a civilian from Jo'burg who was following the blog – a good sailor) then joined the crew for the return home. This year's event organised by the Royal Cape Yacht Club (RCYC), the 14<sup>th</sup> edition since 1971, had 36 vessels from 8 countries taking part, of which only 26 made it to Rio.



Farewell to the crew in Cape Town



On the open sea



The Tuna hunters show off




In Rio with the Rio Scouts






**Venita Pentz**  
28 July 1961

  
Wed 15 Jan 2014  
Wonderful smiles and  
humour are missed by  
all at Bothasig Cubs.




**Andrew van Zyl**  
9 June 1950

  
Wed 15 Jan 2014  
Absolutely driven to  
serve and achieve  
with the Parow hall.



**Debbie Klynsmith**  
21 Dec 1960

  
Sun 2 Feb 2014  
Giving more of herself  
to so many others,  
leaves us with many  
Cubing memories in  
Kenridge Pack.



Did you know that in 1976, Colin Inglis led a 15 day **Wildlife Scout Safari** through Botswana to Zimbabwe? They literally bumped into elephants, walked with lions and slept in the wild amongst the animals. Those were the days of absolute fearless (mad) adventure. Read [Colin's report](#) recently found in our Heritage Centre.

The **23<sup>rd</sup> World Jamboree** is again in Japan 2015. The last time SA was in Japan was on the 13<sup>th</sup> WJamboree in 1971 traveling via Greece, Bangkok, Hong Kong and Taipei, surviving a Typhoon in Japan and returning via Paris and Brussels. Read report [one](#) and [two](#) on this great event as well as see the [pictures](#) on our Heritage Site.



A **Water Charge Certificate Course** took place at Sandvlei Sat 18 to Sun 19 January with 18 participants, who were taken through all the necessary steps to take as regards boat sailing and water activities. Practical hands on training was enjoyed by all, especially sailing in the Saldanha Dinghies. Read the first [70 years of Sea Scouting by Neville Coxon](#), the General Botha and how Sandvlei got started.



As a Celebration of the New Year, the **Purple Peak Challenge** was a simple awareness challenge, where Pack/Troop/Groups arranged an outing to a 'peak' wearing purple. The peak could be any far, near, highest, lowest natural or man made buildings / towers. From l-r top and above; 1<sup>st</sup> Bellville South took a Strand surf walk, Constantiaberg District took a fun hike with a Scouts Own ending in Newlands Forest, Morgan Irwin took a party up Devil's Peak and 1<sup>st</sup> Strand (oops, in orange) Cubs & Scouts hiked up to the General Botha Sign.



The Italian aircraft Carrier (*The Cavour*) and a **Frigate (The Bergamini)** visited were in Cape Town from Wed 5 - Mon 10 Feb. The Bergamini was open to the public to board ship and check things out. **1<sup>st</sup> Durbanville Cubs, Scouts and Parents** arrived en mass on the Saturday morning and made a group of just less than 60. They only took groups of 20 at a time, so we ended up in 3 groups, the 1<sup>st</sup> was Cubs with 2 parents, the second was Cubs and Scouts and the 3<sup>rd</sup> mainly parents. From the discussion that were had afterward it would seem that the 1<sup>st</sup> Cub group got to see and do much more than the other 2 Groups. Some comments; "It was great & awesome. Seeing the helicopter was cool, just that they had chains in the way so we couldn't get closer." - Brogan Reis(8). "As we went down the stairs I saw a BIG binoculars and then we went to the control room and I saw lots and lots of computers. Then we went outside a man explained all the different flags. The trip with the Scouts was very fun." - Ivy Stoffberg (8). "We saw the control area, the steering area, a helicopter and some jellyfish! We got to play with the computers, sit on the chairs and Aaron even made an announcement!" - Jasmine le Roux (10). "We went outside on the ship there were 2 machine guns, torpedoes and 4 missiles. The ship was just big enough to carry a helicopter. The people were very kind but most of them could not speak English, but they say they can't speak English in English! It was so much fun!" - Ian le Roux (11) "It's totally computerized and I was amazed that they knew exactly which button to push and when." - Jonathan Pieterse(14) *Report by Debbie Pieterse - Hathi*



"With all due respect to the Sea Scout background of our Chairman, could we hold our next meeting on dry-land - like any normal Scout meeting!"





Friday 21 Feb BP Birthday **Kanonkop Campfire** saw about 80+ in attendance to enjoy the evening of song and laughter, ending with hot chocolate by the LA. All 'food collected for the poor' on the evening was donated to the Ruyterwacht Senior Centre after the event.



This year we combined the **Provincial Awards & BP Sunday celebrations** at Green Point Urban Park on 23 Feb which was well supported by all in magnificent outdoor blue sky weather. The **HV Marsh Award** for the best Scout journalism Gold Award was taken by 1<sup>st</sup> Bergvliet for their magazine 'Sweet Valley Echo' in 2013 with Silver Award to 2<sup>nd</sup> Bergvliet for the 'Bergvliet Delta'. Well done to all who received various well deserved **Awards!** Some of the **Photo's** by Mike Scott show the opening, crowds, Cub Leaping Wolves, Trophy winners... more on the link.

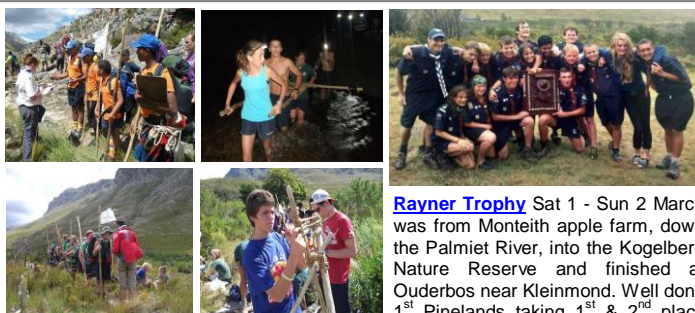


#### **Tonkin Trophy (Best Groups WC for 2013)**

- |                                    |                                |
|------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1. 1 <sup>st</sup> Bergvliet (Win) | 6. 2 <sup>nd</sup> Kenridge    |
| 2. 2 <sup>nd</sup> Bergvliet       | 7. 1 <sup>st</sup> Durbanville |
| 3. 1 <sup>st</sup> Pinelands       | 8. 1 <sup>st</sup> Bothasig    |
| 4. 2 <sup>nd</sup> Somerset West   | 9. 1 <sup>st</sup> Blaauwberg  |
| 5. Durb/Kraaifontein               | 10. 2 <sup>nd</sup> Fish Hoek  |



**Cub Fun Day** Sat 1 March at 1<sup>st</sup> Bothasig was attended by nearly 100 Cubs from 12 Packs - lots of blankets for charity were collected, and lots of fun was had by all with thanks to organisers Joanne Gibbs and Christelle de Kock.



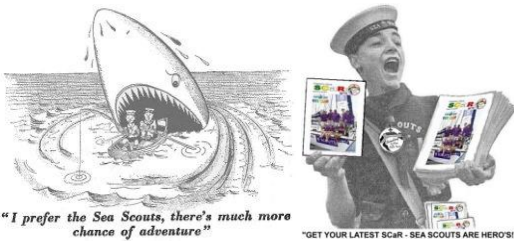
**Rayner Trophy** Sat 1 - Sun 2 March was from Monteith apple farm, down the Palmiet River, into the Kogelberg Nature Reserve and finished at Ouderbos near Kleinmond. Well done 1<sup>st</sup> Pinelands taking 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> place with 1<sup>st</sup> Durbanville 3<sup>rd</sup>. *Tony Rebelo*

#### **SPRINGBOK SCOUTS WC 2013/14**

Bronwyn Seager – 2<sup>nd</sup> Kenridge  
 Connor Thompson – 1<sup>st</sup> Camps Bay  
 Daniel van der Berg – 1<sup>st</sup> Stellenbosch  
 Kyle Corbett – 2<sup>nd</sup> Bergvliet  
 Sergio Jonas – 1<sup>st</sup> Steenberg  
 Viwe Benxa – 1<sup>st</sup> Ikhwezi  
 Anja Muhr – 1<sup>st</sup> Pinelands  
 Ashley Clutten – 1<sup>st</sup> Blaauwberg  
 Michael Cheney – 1<sup>st</sup> Bergvliet  
 Fabio Saporetti – 2<sup>nd</sup> Bergvliet



**LEAPING WOLVES WC 2013/4**  
 To view the above list from the parade, [click here](#)



There are 3 kinds of people: Those who can count and those who can't.

**SABC TV Hectic 9** participants on Friday 7 March showing Scout action.



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Click for 5 Troop **Chocolate LOG PROGRAMS**



**SCaR Edition 37** Hit the streets in Feb 2014 Send News / Comments to André Foot [footaf@telkom.co.za](mailto:footaf@telkom.co.za)

<http://www.scouting.org.za/capewest/heritage/scar>

**WESTERN CAPE Scouts Cubs and Rovers SCaR 38**